

## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

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Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

January 15, 2015, 12:00 to 2:00 pm

West Basin's Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility

1935 S. Hughes Way

El Segundo, CA 90245

### *Attendance:*

Joan Cardellino

Fran Diamond

Gloria Gray

Susan Nissman

Micheal O'Leary

Sarah Sikich

Absent:

Liz Crosson

### *Staff Present:*

Tom Ford, Scott Valor, Marcelo

Villagomez

Guests: Charlie Caspary,

Laura Emberson, Victoria

Gambale, Damian Skinner,

Leighanne Kirk

*Note: Agenda Items are listed in the order in which they were taken up. Called to order at 12:26 p.m.*

Micheal O'Leary chaired the meeting

### *Agenda Item 1. Public Comment*

Charlie Caspary, representing the Las Virgenes MWD JPA, spoke about the LVMWD water reclamation and composting components. He noted that the JPA is looking at a comprehensive water management structure and noted a meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>.

### *Agenda Item 2. Informational Items*

- a. Consideration of Approval of November 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Approved without objection (M: Sikich, S: Nissman, Abs: Cardellino)

- b. Order of Agenda

Unchanged.

- c. Reports from the Executive Director and Staff

Tom Ford noted that the Marine Protected Area baseline closed last year, after 2 ½ years of MPA implementation. Analyses and reports are now being developed and Ford suggested a presentation at an upcoming Governing Board meeting. He noted that Heal The Bay, The Bay Foundation, and others have been participating extensively.

Ford noted that the kelp restoration efforts have been successful and suggested a presentation to the Governing Board at its April or June meeting.

Ford noted discussion regarding local oil field development in the past and stated that Hermosa Beach will be having an informational meeting on this issue on January 31. He suggested that a notice of this meeting be sent to the Governing Board list and the List Serve. Susan Nissman suggested that the information Charlie Caspary presented also be sent to the various informational lists.

Ford stated that Senator Pavley is holding a meeting on February 6 regarding oil refining and transportation issues in the region. Sarah Sikich will also send information regarding a February meeting on a similar topic.

Ford noted that the National Estuary Programs meet at least twice a year and that they will be in DC in late February to discuss new guidance by US EPA regarding climate change. He discussed various climate change factors that will be addressed. He noted that the Annual Report will be published at the end of February.

He stated that the EIR for the Malibu waste water treatment plant was recently approved by its Malibu city council.

### *Agenda Item 3. Executive Committee Business*

- a. Establish Governing Board Agenda for February

#### Proposition 84 Request for Proposal

Ford walked the Executive Committee through the Prop 84 procedures and the SMBRC's past RFP activities. Ford suggested that the remaining available funds be used to support the MS4 permitting requirements in the watershed. He noted that after administrative fees, \$7.2 million will be available.

Nissman asked that, since only \$7.2 million is available, should funding be contingent on the development of an Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP) program. Ford noted a match requirement of 15-20% and a maximum amount of \$5 million for one project. He notes that project eligibility is extensively noted in the staff write up. Micheal O'Leary discussed the "additional benefits" requirement and potential projects that might not necessarily fit the categories listed, but wanted to be sure certain projects were not excluded from consideration.

Damian Skinner noted that the RFP puts additional conditions (beyond Prop 84) on funding. He and O'Leary noted that a particular project to clean a water body might be excluded. Ford noted that the language gives certain projects priority, but doesn't exclude other projects of merit.

Sikich suggested language that "multi-benefit projects will be given priority" noting that certain projects might exceed the requirements of the MS4 permit.

Ford noted that the EC discussion will be taken back to staff to inform/edit the RFP language and may be taken to the Governing Board for consideration.

Joan Cardellino noted that the Coastal Conservancy will be getting \$100 M through Prop 1 around July. She suggested that there might be some way to leverage more benefits using that funding, combined with the Prop 84 funding, though timing may be an issue. She noted that the Conservancy is interested in a few larger projects, not several smaller projects, with a

demonstrable benefit. Fran Diamond suggested setting up a meeting with Regional Water Board staff to discuss potential “big” projects that they see in the future.

Ford noted that only a percentage would be allowed for pre-planning and design.

Ford stated that this item will not be on the GB agenda in February.

#### Augmentation of Proposition 50 Grant Funding for Arroyo Sequit Creek Project

Ford reviewed the concept behind the project to help restore steelhead trout habitat and the progress to date. He noted that bids for completion are higher than was originally funded. State Parks is leading the project and has found an additional \$900K to complete it and has asked for up to \$500K from the SMBRC portion of Proposition 50. Ford noted that the request would have specific contingencies and only be allocated if needed.

O’Leary asked that the remaining Prop 50 funding be noted in the staff report for the GB meeting.

This item was placed on the GB agenda for February without objection. (M: Nissman, S: Sikich)

#### Presentation on Coastal Intercept Sewer

Tom Ford noted that Enrique Zaldivar requested that his staff be given a chance to present on this large project—30 million gallons per day of sewage being sent to the Hyperion facility. EC members asked for a 20 minute time frame.

This item was placed on the GB agenda for February without objection. (M: Nissman, S: Sikich)

#### b. Member Comments and Announcements Regarding Matters not on the Agenda

Fran Diamond asked for a Malibu Lagoon update. Damian Skinner asked for a presentation in April. Gloria Gray asked if there was an ongoing update on projects. She suggested a standing item at each meeting for projects with significant milestones. Ford stated that twice a year, staff compiles information for US EPA, so that these reports could be circulated to the GB as well. Susan Nissman noted that she is staying on with Supervisor Kuehl to assist with transition. Her duties with the SMBRC will be assumed by Timothy Lippman. Director Gray announced two new board members for WBMWD and an upcoming reception in January. Joan Cardellino announced a Coastal Conservancy board meeting in January. Nissman suggested adding the Santa Monica Mountains National Restoration Area NPS and CalTrans be added to the GB.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m. without objection. (M: Nissman, S: O’Leary)